DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 121 681 SO 009 070

TITLE	Using Political Resources, Mastery Test: Political Systems, Unit Two. Comparing Political Experiences, Experimental Edition.
INSTITUTION	American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C.; National Evaluation Systems, Inc., Amherst, Mass.; Social Studies Development Center, Bloomington, Ind.
SPONS AGENCY	National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE	75
NOTE	20p.; For related documents, see ED 120 058-059 and SO 009 069-076
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$1.67 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS	American Government (Course); Civics; Grade 12; *Multiple Choice Tests; *Political Science; Politics; Secondary Education; Social Studies; *Student Evaluation; *Systems Concepts; *Tests
IDENTIFIERS	*Comparing Political Experiences; High School Political Science Curriculum Project

ABSTRACT

This mastery test is designed to accompany unit 2 of the first-semester "Comparing Political Experiences" course. The 27-item multiple-choice test was developed by the National Evaluation Systems, Inc. in conjunction with the project directors to determine whether the unit objectives have been achieved. The test measures student knowledge of the alternative patterns of political resources found in different political systems. Emphasis is placed on testing how different resources affect political maintenance, change, development, and conflict in elite and coalitional political systems. The test should be administered to the class as a group and then returned to the project headquarters for grading and analysis for possible revision of the student materials. (DE)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

Comparing Political Experiences

Using Political Resources

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
Judith Billespie
TO ERIC AND ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING UNDER AGREEMENTS WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION. FURTHER REPRODUCTION OUTSIDE THE ERIC SYSTEM REQUIRES PERMISSION OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNER

ED121681

Unit 2 Mastery Test

Prepared by
National Evaluation Systems, Inc.,
P.O. Box 226, Amherst, Massachusetts 01002
Telephone: (413)549-1011

For
High School Political Science Curriculum Project
Social Studies Development Center
Indiana University

Copyright 1975/The American Political Science Association

2

SP 009 070

Directions

The test you are about to take has 27 multiple choice questions. Read each question carefully and select an answer choice. You should record your choice by blackening the small space containing the letter corresponding to your answer.

Your answer sheet will be scored by a machine. Therefore, please make your marks dark and only in the answer spaces you select. Look at the sample question below and see how the answer is recorded in the sample answer box.

SAMPLE QUESTION

1. The opposite of UP is:
   - A. over
   - B. beside
   - C. down
   - D. inside

SAMPLE ANSWER BOX

REMEMBER:

1. Use a pencil only (No. 2 lead is best).
2. Use only the answer spaces A, B, C and D. There are NO questions with an "E" choice.
3. If you wish to change an answer, erase the unwanted mark completely.
4. Answer all questions and be sure you have marked your choice correctly. Mark ALL answers on your answer sheet.
5. DO NOT write in your test booklet and do not make stray marks on your answer sheet.
6. DO NOT add to or change the information at the top of the answer sheet. This space is for computer use only.
7. Good luck and take your time.

COMPARING POLITICAL EXPERIENCES is a two-semester high school course developed by the High School Political Science Curriculum Project, under the sponsorship of the American Political Science Association's Committee on Pre-Collegiate Education. The project is supported by funds provided by the National Science Foundation. National Evaluation Systems, Inc., is the evaluation agency responsible for test development.

1. Which of the following lists contains only political resources?

I.	II.
wealth ideas skills	participation status leadership

A. I

B. II

C. both I and II

D. neither I nor II

2. Identify an ADVOCATE role in the situation below.

> Glen, who is the president of the theater group, had called a meeting to discuss raising money for the play. Paula showed up at the meeting and seemed interested, but she didn't take part in the discussion. Rose convinced the rest of the group that they should raise money by selling advertising space in the play's program. Sean volunteered to talk to local businesses about buying the advertising space.

Who performs an ADVOCATE role in this situation?

A. Glen

B. Paula

C. Rose

D. Sean

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

3. Suppose you want to do a survey study about the distribution of political resources in your town government. Which of the following would be the best question to use in guiding your study?

A. Do dark-haired people have more public speaking skills than others?

B. Are there many people who have skills that are useful?

C. What proportion of the townspeople are well informed about decisions made by the city council?

D. Is Councilman Smith very skillful at writing the proposals he presents to the council?

4. Look for a SUPPORTER role in the situation below.

> Flo organized a group because she wanted to do something about the high prices in Andy's, the only grocery store in town. Hank said that the best way to get Andy to lower his prices was to start shopping in another town. After a long discussion it was agreed that Casey would drive her truck to Nextville once a week and buy groceries for the members of the organization.

Which of the following statements is true about a SUPPORTER role in this situation?

A. Flo performed a supporter role because she got the group together.

B. Hank performed a supporter role because he provided useful advice for the group.

C. Casey performed a supporter role because she carried out the group's decision.

D. No one performed a supporter role in the group.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

5. The Advent Company has been an elite organization. The two owners are forecasting the future of the company.

> Maureen: Most businesses of this kind become bureaucratic organizations when they take on a large staff. But a participant group is also possible. It is likely that we will become bureaucratic since the company would probably run better that way.

> Thomas: There has been little change in the way this company has been run over the last 10 years. We could become a bureaucratic or an elite organization depending on whether the new president makes basic changes. But an elite company is more likely since we don't have enough skilled employees for a bureaucratic one.

Which person correctly follows all of the steps in the forecasting procedure?

A. Maureen

B. Thomas

C. both Maureen and Thomas

D. neither Maureen nor Thomas

6. An elite system may undergo a political CONFLICT experience if the resources in the system are changed in which one of the following ways?

A. Political skills are held by fewer people while wealth is shared more equally. The system operates differently.

B. Political status and wealth are both distributed more widely in the system. The system operates differently.

C. Information, wealth, and status remain concentrated in the hands of a few people. The system operates differently.

D. More people in the system have information, but status and wealth continue to be held by a few people. The system operates differently.

7. Read the following episode and the student reactions to it. Think about the way the students considered the episode.

> Greg had just started working at a store that sold television sets. The boss said that they wanted to get rid of one model that wasn't selling well. Although the price on that model had not been lowered, Greg's boss asked him to tell customers that it had been reduced by $50. Greg wanted to do a good job for his boss, but he was not comfortable about lying to the customers.
>
> What should Greg do?

Nancy: Some of you say that there is nothing wrong with lying to customers, but I don't agree. Greg should act according to his own personal beliefs and not his boss's. Besides, he can tell his boss that if customers grow to trust you, that's good for business.

Felix: I agree with Nancy that it is wrong to lie to customers when you are doing business. Greg should not follow his boss's instructions. After all, Greg has to live with his own conscience, and he may regret his behavior later.

Think about the WAY Nancy and Felix made their decision--not the decision itself. The way you would consider this issue would be most like:

A. Nancy

B. Felix

C. both Nancy and Felix

D. neither Nancy nor Felix

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

8. Which of the following is the best description of an ELITE political system?

A. Most resources are shared and most activities are carried out by all of the people in the system.

B. Most resources are divided among different groups and most activities are carried out by many different groups.

C. Most resources are stratified across different groups and most activities are carried out by people according to their positions.

D. Most resources are shared by a few people and most activities are carried out by a small group.

9. Identify the statement below which is NOT a good comparison.

I. Wealth is more equally distributed in Cuba in 1975 than it was in 1950.

II. There are more Representatives in the House than there are Senators in the Senate in the U.S. Congress.

Which of the following statements is true about the above two comparisons?

A. I is not a good comparison because the things being compared are not comparable.

B. I is not a good comparison because it lacks significance.

C. II is not a good comparison because a concept is not used in the comparison.

D. II is not a good comparison because the things being compared are not comparable.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

10. Look for political resources in the situation below.

> Students at Jackson High School are active in school politics. They provide new ideas for school policies, and they have full information about school plans. The principal invites them to communicate their concerns about the way the school is run. Most of the students are skillful at presenting their views to others.

All of the following are political resources of the students in this situation EXCEPT:

A. ideas

B. communication

C. information

D. skill

11. Determine whether the two questions below would be useful in guiding a survey study about political communication in the Senate.

> I. How many of the Senators believe that they are skilled in participating in Senate activities?

> II. Does Senator Allen believe that he has enough skill to work effectively in support of Senator Kenney's political reform bill?

Which of the following statements is true about these questions?

A. I is a good survey question.

B. II is a good survey question.

C. Both I and II are good survey questions.

D. Neither I nor II is a good survey question.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

12. Which of the following statements is true about an ELITE pattern of influence?

A. An influence pattern is elite if the influence is distributed among people on different levels.

B. An influence pattern is elite if influence flows in one direction from one person at the top to people on lower levels.

C. An influence pattern is elite if people in groups on the same level are in an equal position to influence one another.

D. An influence pattern is elite if there are more people who have influence on lower levels than there are at the top.

13. Identify an ADVOCATE role in the situation below.

> At the last meeting of the staff at Hank's Franks, Hank asked if anyone had new ideas about increasing their business. Stu said he thought they should attract more business by offering double-decker hot dogs. Fran agreed that this would be a good idea. Mary had been trying to create a bun that would hold two franks.

Which of the following statements is true about an ADVOCATE role in this situation?

A. Hank is performing an advocate role since he is looking for new ideas.

B. Stu is performing an advocate role since he is trying to get others to agree with his idea.

C. Fran is performing an advocate role since she agrees with Stu.

D. Mary is performing an advocate role since she is trying to help make Stu's idea work.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

14. Two students are forecasting the future of a rock band. The band has been an elite group in the past.

> Toby: The band has split into three factions and is beginning to operate more like a coalitional system. If this is just a phase, the band may become an elite group again. Or, the group may remain coalitional. It seems most likely that it will be coalitional from now on, since no one group seems strong enough to take over.

> Chris: There have been many arguments among members of the band recently. The leader has threatened to replace those who have been making trouble. If he does, the band will surely remain an elite group. The way things are going, I think the band will remain an elite group.

Which student uses the complete alternative futures method correctly?

A. Only Toby because she identifies a trend, considers alternative futures, and determines the likely outcome.

B. Only Chris because she identifies important recent events in the band, considers the likely outcome of these events, and predicts the future of the band.

C. Both Toby and Chris because they both make a prediction about the future of the band by considering what is presently going on in the band.

D. Neither Toby nor Chris because they say nothing about changes in the political roles of the band members.

15. An elite system may undergo a political CHANGE experience if the resources in the system are changed in which one of the following ways?

A. Fewer people have ideas or status but more people have information. The system operates in the same way.

B. Skills, status, and wealth are all distributed more equally in the system. The system operates in the same way.

C. The distribution of wealth and status remains the same, but more people have information. The system operates in the same way.

D. Skills, status, and wealth continue to be held by a few people in the system. The system operates in the same way.

16. Identify the statement below which is NOT a good comparison.

I. Blue-eyed people hold fewer leadership positions than do brown-eyed people.

II. The principal has more authority in the school than the vice-principal has.

Which of the following statements is true about the above two comparisons?

A. I is not a good comparison because the things being compared are not comparable.

B. I is not a good comparison because it lacks significance.

C. II is not a good comparison because a concept is not used in the comparison.

D. II is not a good comparison because it is unclear what things are being compared.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

17. Read the following episode and the student reactions to it. Think about the way the students considered the episode.

> Eric thought that there was little difference between the two candidates, and he disagreed with the political views of both of them. He didn't want to vote for either candidate. But he felt that he had a democratic duty to cast a vote one way or the other.
>
> What should Eric do?

Henry: It doesn't matter what he does. Both choices are undesirable so there is no basis for making a decision. I guess if it were me I'd probably vote--but who knows?

Barry: I agree with Henry that there is a problem with both of Eric's alternatives. But I think that Eric definitely should vote. When people don't vote they are giving up their political power to other people.

Think about the WAY Henry and Barry made their decision--not the decision itself. The way you would consider this issue would be most like:

A. Henry, since I agree that it is a difficult issue to decide.

B. Barry, since he gives a reason for his decision.

C. both Henry and Barry, since both take a position on the issue.

D. neither Henry nor Barry, since I disagree with both of them.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

18. Identify a SUPPORTER role in the situation below.

> In the fund-raising committee Byron runs the meetings. Ellen often argues that the committee should take a more radical approach to raising funds. Dick doesn't say much, but he contacts everyone on his list about contributing money. Esther is usually quiet, but pays careful attention to the conversations.

Who performs a SUPPORTER role in this situation?

A. Byron

B. Ellen

C. Dick

D. Esther

19. Look for political resources in the situation below.

> In the Early Worm Birdwatchers Club, everyone has the skill and knowledge to participate in club projects. Since most members do not know each other well, only a few people communicate with each other about club projects. All decisions are made by the founder of the club, who has the official status of being club president.

Which of the following statements best describes the distribution of resources in the club?

A. The resources are held by only a few club members.

B. The resources are shared by all club members.

C. Some resources are held by everyone and other resources are held by only a few club members.

D. The description of the club does not indicate how resources are distributed.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

20. Which of the following is a good comparison?

A. Most politicians have studied law.

B. The Republicans won the last election and the Democrats lost.

C. Members of the Senate have more influence on the President than members of the House do.

D. The campaign bill is more important than the election.

21. The Fallon Garden Club has been a participant group in the past. Two members are forecasting the future of the club.

> Frankie: The older members have begun taking over control of the club. If this continues the club will become an elite group. If the younger members develop more interest, the club could remain a participant group. But since the younger members have so many other interests, it is likely that the club will become an elite group.

> Johnny: There are three different factions developing in the club, none of which has enough resources to control the club. So it is possible that the club will become a coalitional group. But if one of the groups gets enough supporters, the club may become an elite group. It's almost impossible to tell which way things will move.

Which person correctly follows all of the steps in the forecasting procedure?

A. Frankie

B. Johnny

C. both Frankie and Johnny

D. neither Frankie nor Johnny

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

22. Identify the use of an ELITE political system model in the comments below.

> Steve: Mayor Daley is one of the most dedicated politicians the city of Chicago has ever known. Whenever he speaks to the public or to officials he speaks with force and great authority. He was elected by a large majority to be the leader of the city government. He has been a strong supporter of the anti-crime campaign and has helped to get the gun control law passed.

> Sheila: The city government in Chicago is primarily controlled by Mayor Daley. His control of the Democratic organization is so strong that he can decide who gets elected to the City Council and to other executive positions. The Republican party has little support in Chicago. Government employees understand that their political success depends upon their loyalty to Daley. Thus Daley is able to control the City Council and other officials who were intended to have independent powers.

Which student uses an ELITE political system model to describe political life in Chicago?

A. Steve

B. Sheila

C. both Steve and Sheila

D. neither Steve nor Sheila

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

23. Decide whether the situation below contains a political DEVELOPMENT experience.

> When the Book Review Club was organized in 1970, only Sharon was skilled in interpreting the books they discussed. She was also the only member who had any information about current trends in literature. She had the most status and was recognized as the leader of the group. But the group members were dissatisfied with the way the group was run.

> By 1975, Sharon had provided all club members with interpretive information about literary trends. Everyone had more equal status and, therefore, all were involved in leading the group. All were pleased with the new way the group operated.

Which of the following statements is true about the political experience in this situation?

A. It is an example of development because all members now share the resources and the group operates differently.

B. It is an example of development because the group now operates in a different way which allows members to be satisfied.

C. It is not an example of development because while resources are more evenly distributed, the group operates differently.

D. It is not an example of development because Sharon had to provide skills to other members; the members did not work to make the group run differently.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

24. In selecting a sample for doing a sample survey on a large population, you should:

A. include every member of the population.

B. be sure that the people you sample have reliable information.

C. give every member of the population an equal chance of being selected.

D. be sure that you do not use any knowledge of the population in selecting the sample.

25. Look for a SUPPORTER role in the situation below.

> At the latest meeting of the Clean Stream Organization, Susan proposed that the group take legal action rather than simply try to influence public opinion. Joel declared that he strongly agreed with Susan and that he was interested in helping out with the legal process.

Which of the following statements is true about a SUPPORTER role in this situation?

A. Joel performed a supporter role because he was interested in helping.

B. Joel performed a supporter role because he expressed agreement with Susan.

C. Joel did not perform a supporter role because he only wanted to help with legal action and not with influencing public opinion.

D. Joel did not perform a supporter role because he had not yet actually helped the group.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

26. Read the following episode and the student reactions to it. Think about the way the students considered the episode.

> George knew that he could get away with paying much less income tax by not reporting the money he had made on one of his jobs. But he also knew that he would be breaking the law, and he usually tried to avoid breaking laws.
>
> What should George do?

Edith: Frank pointed out that avoiding taxes is a common practice. But I don't think that makes it okay. If George starts breaking the law, he will get caught sooner or later. He should pay all his taxes.

Dolly: I admire people who do what they should even if they can get away with doing something else. I don't like people who break the law. George should pay all his taxes.

Think about the WAY Edith and Dolly made their decision--not the decision itself. The way you would consider this issue would be most like:

A. Edith, since she listens to other people's reasons.

B. Dolly, since she expresses her feelings about the issue.

C. both Edith and Dolly, since I agree with their decision.

D. neither Edith nor Dolly, since neither gives what I think are good reasons.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

27. Evaluate the ADVOCATE role in the situation below.

> Walter wanted to become more influential in the student senate. He knew that many senators wanted to do something about changing the grading system in the school. So he proposed that the senate organize a protest demonstration. Many of the group agreed with this idea. When someone asked him why he thought this approach would be effective, Walter said, "I don't know. It just seems like the thing to do."

Which of the following statements is true about the ADVOCATE role in this situation?

A. Walter performed an advocate role well because he came up with an idea that others agreed with.

B. Walter performed an advocate role well because he was able to defend his idea.

C. Walter performed an advocate role poorly because he did not try to encourage other points of view.

D. Walter performed an advocate role poorly because he did not give reasons for his idea.

STOP